



Goat breeding to the Philippines

(Last updated: 6 Nov 2008)

Trends and opportunities

The market

Based on inventory figures from the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics, total goat inventory as of January 2007 was numbered 4.04 million heads, 8.08 per cent higher than last year's headcount of 3.74 million. Thirty eight per cent of the goat population were breeder does; while nine per cent were breeder bucks.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) through its attached agency – the Livestock Development Council (LDC) is working with local breeders to supplement and improve local stock.

Australia is a known supplier of boer goats in the Philippines due to quality, price competitiveness, adaptability, quarantine status and proximity in terms of lead time. Purebreds and crossbreds are preferred.

There is also an increasing demand for dairy goats. More commonly sourced breeds are Anglo-Nubian, Saanen and Toggenburg. Anglo-Nubians are the popular breed due to adaptability to the tropical setting. However, Saanens are now being farmed because of its higher milk production capacity.

Local breeders are keen to improve local stock and are also interested to learn artificial insemination, goat management and embryo transfer for the longer-term development of the industry.

Opportunities

Opportunity areas in the Philippines goat industry include:

- Boer goats for breeding
- Dairy goats, ie. Anglo Nubians and Saanens
- Training and education and farm management
- Embryo transfer and artificial insemination



Tariffs, regulations and quotas

Full blood and purebred breeding goats are imposed one per cent duty. All others not falling under this classification are subject to an in-quota tariff of 30 per cent and out-quota tariff of 40 per cent. Goat meat calls for 30 per cent in-quota and 35 per cent out quota tariff. The Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) allows primarily breeding animals for importation.

Some agricultural products, such as goat meat are subject to in-quota and out-quota tariff because of available local production. The local importer applies for an allocation per year with the DA. The in-quota tariff applies to products imported within the approved allocation and the out-quota tariff applies to products imported in excess of the allocation. Due to high tariff and local production, goat meat is not a viable export to the country.

Import protocol

An import permit or Veterinary Quarantine Clearance (VQC) is required from the BAI. Among the import terms and conditions the following are required:

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- The animals must be examined and must be free of physical defects likely to affect the breeding potential. The pedigree records certificate should accompany the shipment.
- The animals must be accompanied by an Australian Quarantine and Inspection Health Certificate.
- The animals must be negative to Blue Tongue and Caprine Arthritis/Encephalitis within 30 days prior to export.
- The animals must be transported directly from the isolation area to the point of embarkation.
- No animals or other ruminants are permitted aboard the ship or aircraft from another country during the time where the goats are on board the ship or aircraft.
- No stops or ports of call are permitted while the animals are on board the ship/aircraft during the transit.

Bureau of Animal Industry

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Market entry

Australian breeders and exporters should be aware of the following when exporting to the Philippines:

- Importation is done by individual importers who consolidate orders for local breeders. They would prefer animals coming from two or three farms to have different blood lines. When negotiations are finalised on volume and prices, importers usually prefer to schedule visits to Australia to select the animals.
 - Purebred and crossbred boers are demanded more than full-blood due to costs. Average age is 8 to 18 months old with weight of 30-35kg. Only a few would source animals weighing 50kg and above.
 - Sourcing of dairy goats due to their distinctive breeding season and availability of supply comprise a minority of the whole importation. Average age is 12 to 18 months old.

Transport

Shipment via air would be the most viable option to transport the animals to Luzon or the Visayas/Mindanao area. Transshipment is not allowed from Luzon to the VisMin as the latter is a foot-and-mouth disease free zone.

Ship freight has become an option again with the resumption of the cattle trade. Importers though have difficulties in meeting volume requirements sometimes to make transport costs economical.

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Links and industry contacts

Government, business and trade resources for the Philippines

Livestock Development Council – www ldc da gov ph

An attached agency of the Department of Agriculture working on programs to promote small ruminant animals particularly goats and sheep.

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Contact details

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